

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-6. Canceled

7. (new) A computer-implemented method for presenting a set of search results, the method comprising:

assigning, to each page of a set of one or more pages, an authority weight;

wherein the authority weight assigned to each page represents a relative importance of the page relative to other pages;

for each page in the plurality of pages, recursively distributing the page's authority weight over pages that belong to a collection of pages, thereby establishing authority weights for at least some pages, within the collection, that do not belong to the set of one or more pages;

wherein the step of recursively distributing the page's authority weight includes establishing the page as a current page and repeatedly performing the following steps until an end condition is satisfied:

a) following an outgoing link from the current page to a next page that belongs to the collection;

b) distributing a portion of the authority weight to the next page; and

c) establishing the next page as the current page;

receiving a search query that is to be executed against the collection;

identifying a set of pages from the collection that match the search query;

determining how to present search results that list the pages that match the said search query based, at least in part, on the authority weights associated with the pages that match the search query; and

presenting the search results that list the pages that match the said search query based, at least in part, on the authority weights associated with the pages that match the search query.

8. (new) The method of Claim 7 wherein the step of determining how to present search results that list the pages that match the said search query includes determining a presentation order of the pages that match the search query based, at least in part, on the authority weights associated with the pages that match the search query.

9. (new) The method of Claim 7 wherein the step of determining how to present search results that list the pages that match the said search query includes determining whether to highlight listings, within the search results, of the pages that match the search query based, at least in part, on the authority weights associated with the pages that match the search query.

10. (new) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of recursively distributing the page's authority weight until an end condition is satisfied includes recursively distributing the page's authority weight until a predetermined number of links are traversed.

11. (new) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of recursively distributing the page's authority weight until an end condition is satisfied includes recursively distributing the page's authority weight until a predetermined threshold of authority weight remains to be distributed.

12. (new) The method of claim 7, further comprising pre-computing an authority weight vector for a graph using a set of reference pages in the collection of pages.

13. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising combining an authority vector for one or more predetermined reference pages with an authority vector for one or more user-specific reference pages of the collection of pages.

14. (new) A machine-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 7.

15. (new) A machine-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 8.

16. (new) A machine-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 9.

17. (new) A machine-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 10.

18. (new) A machine-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 11.

19. (new) A machine-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 12.

20. (new) A machine-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 13.